

Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending April 2, 2006

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, April 2, 2006**. Warmer weather last week helped with planting and crop progress. Rice planting should begin within the week and sorghum planting is in the early stages. Blueberry growers are pleased with the crop and progress is currently ahead of schedule. Weed control applications in pastures are occurring as ryegrass growth has perked up. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 18 percent short, 70 percent adequate, and 7 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2005	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	60	33	41	46	--	--	--	--	--
	Emerged	26	12	16	14					
Sorghum	Planted	1	--	--	3					
Soybeans	Planted	13	1	5	7	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	77	52	75	65	0	5	41	46	8
	Heading	7	1	2	3					
Watermelons	Planted	30	25	19	26	--	--	--	--	--
Blueberries						0	2	32	54	12
Cattle						3	15	40	35	7
Pasture						0	13	32	46	9

County Agent Comments

“Row crop producers have started applying burndown chemicals.”

— Danny Owen, Tishomingo

“Although frequent rains have delayed corn planting, actual soil moisture is still limited. Hopefully, corn planting will be completed next week and we will receive timely rains to supplement soil reserves. Soybean planting has not reached full speed yet in this area; hopefully, this will occur next week as well.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“Sunshine and warm temperatures have changed the look of the landscape. Wheat is heading and corn is sprouting. The 2006 growing season is definitely underway. We are to the point in some areas where we could use a little rain. Corn planting is over half done. We should complete the bulk of the corn planting early next week, weather permitting.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Soil moisture is short and we need a good rain. Cattle are catching up with ryegrass. Tillage and planting conditions have been good. We had frost on March 25, 26 and 27.”

— Clayton Rouse, Lamar

“Forages in Jackson County need rain. Pastures and other forages are beginning to show signs of drought.”

— Walter E. Walker, Jackson

“Cattle are improving in condition with more grazing being available. Cleanup continues from Katrina. Vegetable crops are being planted.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers took advantage of sunshine last week to get into the fields. Corn was planted and pastures were fertilized. Other field preparations were also made.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“We have planted almost all of our corn and about 50% of our soybeans. Rice planting will begin this week. Wheat looks good.”

— Don Respons, Bolivar

“Producers are planting beans in earnest now and won't stop until the crop is in the ground. Rice will begin going in next week.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Early soybeans were planted and cotton ground was prepared. Lime and fertilizer went out. Some fields are still too wet, but the light soils allowed equipment to get in the fields in many places.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Rain over the weekend will delay the planting of corn and applying burndown herbicides.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“We finally got started planting corn this week. We will start beans next week.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“With temperatures climbing, we should be in the fields within the next 7 to 10 days. Pastures are greening and producers are making weed control applications.”

— Patrick Poindexter, Alcorn

“With corn and soybean planting beginning, tillage and seedbed preparations were the major activities.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Some corn growers have finished corn planting. Other growers made good progress toward completion of corn planting. Progress was also made side-dressing corn with UAN fertilizer. A few acres of soybeans were planted in early March. Those soybeans have emerged and look good. Most soybean growers started planting soybeans this past week. Some tillage work was also completed last week. Now that we missed most of the rains over the weekend, some serious fieldwork will be accomplished during this week.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Corn and soybean planting started back in some fields. Wheat is beginning to head. Some striped rust has been reported in wheat.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Scattered showers were received throughout the week. Warming temperatures have sped up winter- weed growth. Burndown treatments are going out. Pasture winter-weed spraying is needed in many fields. Pasture grasses are beginning to grow now. Fruit trees are being assessed for earlier cold weather damage. Pecans have not yet budded.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Pastures are showing improvement and livestock are beginning to show improvement from available grass. Corn and watermelon producers have had an excellent week to get fields prepared and planted.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

“Corn that has been planted is emerging slowly. Seven to ten days of dry, sunny weather is needed to prepare fields to get the remainder of corn, beans and vegetable crops planted. About 60% of the ryegrass has finally begun to grow at a good rate. Cattle on these fields of grass are responding to this lush growth. The remaining 40% continue to perform poorly. Blueberry farmers reported that blueberries are in great condition. Blueberry cains are in full bloom and progressing rapidly to the fruit stage. Growers indicated that they could be ten days early this season if the weather remains as it has been. One grower said "5 to 10 days early could get us in the early market and economically this would be good.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

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**U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO
Thomas L. Gregory, Director**

Weather Summary from March 27, 2006 to April 2, 2006 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Cleveland	83	38	62	57	+5	0.30	-0.96	1	4.15				
Lambert	81	38	58			0.00	-1.21	0	3.21				
Tunica	81	39	60	57	+3	0.31	-1.02	3	4.71				
Extreme/Average	83	38	61	58	+3	0.31	-1.02	2					
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	80	30	60	57	+3	0.39	-0.94	2	4.16				
Hickory Flat	82	23	59	55	+4	0.50	-0.86	2	4.15				
Independence	80	29	57	55	+2	0.55	-0.64	1	4.21				
Oxford	83	35	63	56	+7	0.26	-1.04	2	4.14				
Extreme/Average	83	23	59	57	+2	0.45	-0.88	2	4.16				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	78	39	57	56	+1	0.78	-0.58	1	4.49				
Iuka	81	22	55	53	+2	0.16	-1.24	1	2.98				
Ripley	82	25	56	55	+1	0.79	-0.57	1	4.55				
Tupelo	79	35	62			0.18		1	2.62				
Verona				57		1.20	-0.13	1	4.38				
Extreme/Average	82	22	56	57	-1	0.48	-0.89	1	3.77				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	82	34	60	60	0	0.43	-0.94	2	6.29				
Rolling Fork	84	38	64	59	+5	0.20	-1.20	1	5.02				
Stoneville	83	39	63	59	+4	0.29	-1.03	1	5.44				
Yazoo City	84	34	63	60	+3	0.00	-1.53	0	4.53				
Extreme/Average	84	34	63	60	+3	0.16	-1.24	1	4.78				
5. Central													
Canton	83	37	62	60	+2	0.00	-1.40	0	2.18				
Carthage				59		0.00	-1.40	0	4.06				
Eupora	80	28	60	57	+3	0.17	-1.30	2	4.37				
Lexington				59					1.07				
Extreme/Average	83	28	62	59	+3	0.00	-1.44	0					
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	80	27	56	57	-1	0.10	-1.27	1	3.45				
Houston	80	29	58	56	+2	0.18	-1.24	2	3.65				
Philadelphia				59		0.00	-1.40	0	3.30				
State University	81	33	59	58	+1	0.09	-1.31	1	3.99				
Extreme/Average	81	27	56	59	-3	0.10	-1.30	1	3.45				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	85	38	65	61	+4	0.00	-1.40	0	3.85				
Natchez	80	39	66	62	+4	0.02	-1.52	1	4.16				
Oakley				60		0.00	-1.50	0	4.45				
Vicksburg	83	35	64			0.00		0	5.94				
Extreme/Average	85	35	64	61	+3	0.00	-1.47	0	4.90				
8. South-Central													
Collins	84	44	64	60	+4	0.34	-1.09	2	2.66				
Columbia	86	38	65	62	+3	0.20	-1.27	3	3.24				
Tylertown	85	35	65	62	+3	0.17	-1.22	3	2.45				
Extreme/Average	86	35	65	61	+4	0.24	-1.23	3	2.66				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont									2.24				
Hattiesburg				62		0.00	-1.41	0	2.29				
Laurel	84	35	62	61	+1	0.32	-1.04	3	3.54				
Newton	84	37	64	58	+6	0.28	-1.20	2	6.37				
Extreme/Average	84	35	62	61	+1	0.32	-1.12	3	3.54				
10. Coastal													
Gulfport				64		0.00	-1.27	0	0.06				
Pascagoula 3NE	80	48	65	61	+4	0.00	-1.24	0	0.05				
Picayune				63		0.00	-1.38	0	0.10				
Extreme/Average	80	48		63									
State	86	22	61	60	+1	0.21	-1.20	1	3.92				

DFN = Departure from Normal.